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BARKER BRETTTELL

→ EPO HAGUE

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concentration, for instance of fragrance oils and perfumes, the lower the flash point of the candle wax. In very high scent concentrations the candle risks flash ignition of the melt pool.

- 5 Accordingly the present invention provides a scented pellet for introducing scent to a candle comprising a bulk material, scent and a coating, wherein the concentration of scent in the coating is less than the concentration of scent in the bulk material and wherein the pellet is arranged to release the scent upon melting of the bulk material in the
- 10 candle's melt pool surrounding the wick.

The bulk material of the pellet may comprise one of or a mixture of synthetic wax and organic wax. For example, the wax may be beeswax, paraffin wax, or any other suitable plant or biological wax.

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- The concentration of the scented material is preferably higher than that of typical scented candles. The concentration of the scented material is preferably at least 3%, more preferably at least 5% and still more preferably approximately 10%. In some circumstances higher
- 20 concentrations may be possible, for example up to 15% or above, or up to 20% or above. It may also be possible to use concentrations as high as 50% or more, or even pure scent. This percentage may be the percentage volume of scent in the bulk material or alternatively may be the percentage volume in the whole pellet.

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- The scented material may comprise a perfume or alternatively may comprise fragrant oil. Any suitable synthetic scent or scent of biological origin may be used, for example, aromatic oils. Though these scents may normally be in pure form liquid at room temperature, scented material in
- 30 solid form may also be added to the pellet, for instance as a powder, and

this scent may melt at temperatures found typically in the molten wax in the candle melt pool.

The mixture of bulk material and scented material may preferably be a solid. Alternatively, the mixture may be a non-solid amorphous material such as a paste or may comprise gaseous pockets to form a solid foam. A foamed pellet has the advantage of rapid melting and therefore results in more rapid production of scent by the candle. The maximum concentration of scent in pellets in which the mixture of bulk material and scented material is a solid is determined by the concentration at which the mixture at room temperature becomes non-solid.

Alternatively, the pellet may comprise a liquid scent core within a solid bulk material capsule or shell.

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The coating may be made from any suitable hard combustible material such as wax. For example, paraffin wax or beeswax may be used. Either one of, or both of the bulk material of the pellet and the coating may contain a colourant such as a coloured dye or pigment. For example, different colours may be used for different fragrances. In this way a set of pellets may be provided the pellets having different colourants, and different scents, each pellet of a particular colourant having a corresponding scent. This enables the scent of the pellet to be determined by its colour. The colourant may be contained only in the coating, or the coating may contain more colourant than the main body of the pellet. In some circumstances, the colourant may be a dye that oxidises upon melting of the pellet so as to minimise the amount of colour added to the melt pool of the wax.

30 The coating may contain less scent than the main body of the pellet, preferably substantially no scent. The coating may also be less permeable

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than the main body of the pellet, thereby being arranged to prevent scent from the main body of the pellet from escaping, until the pellet melts.